

20040223.qrp v03_n206.qrl.20040223

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 19:03:08 EST
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 3206

QRP-L Digest 3206

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [168963] Fox: Announcement - N0IT Fox This Tuesday
by "sjolin" <sjolin@swbell.net>
- 2) [168964] RE: LogBook of the World
by "ratray" <ratray@accesscomm.ca>
- 3) [168965] QRP DX totals...
by Michael Byrd <m.byrd10@verizon.net>
- 4) [168966] RE: More FS Kenwood HS-5 Comm Headphones
by "W.D. (Doc) Lindsey" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
- 5) [168967] Re: Amateur-radio quality issues (was: Re: MFJ gear)
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 6) [168968] DX International results....
by "George Osier" <gosier@twcny.rr.com>
- 7) [168969] Re: LogBook of the World
by "Bill Rowlett" <kc4atu@hotmail.com>
- 8) [168970] My qrp stuff that I'm selling
by J <W7LS@blarg.net>
- 9) [168971] Re: Yet more soldering questions
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 10) [168972] DSWMULTI v0.5 is released upon the world..."DANGER, Will Robinson!"...
by <bill@n4qa.com>
- 11) [168973] RE: [Elmer 160] PIC El Programming Problems
by "Kevin M., W8VOS" <adverseyaw@twmi.rr.com>
- 12) [168974] Re: Yet more soldering questions
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
- 13) [168975] Re: Yet more soldering questions
by "Jason Hsu, AG4DG" <jhs001@heronetwork.com>
- 14) [168976] Re: Yet more soldering questions
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 15) [168977] Re: Yet more soldering questions
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 16) [168978] Re: Yet more soldering questions
by Mik Ishmael <mightymik2@comcast.net>
- 17) [168979] Funny CW Net Tricks...or what I did this weekend.
by Wayne K9DI <k9di@k9di.org>
- 18) [168980] Re: Yet more soldering questions
by Shawn Upton <kb1ckt@yahoo.com>

- 19) [168981] RE: Amateur-radio quality issues (was: Re: MFJ gear)
by "J. Michael Thurman" <jmthurman@centurytel.net>
- 20) [168982] Hustler 6BVT Vertical
by "Paul Mackanos" <paul@prohomeinspector.net>
- 21) [168983] Re: Yet more soldering questions
by <w9ya@arrl.net>
- 22) [168984] Re: Yet more soldering questions
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 23) [168985] Re: OT: Merging CB and Amateur radio good for ham radio and QRP
by Tom Severt <n2uhc@yahoo.com>
- 24) [168986] Re: Yet more soldering questions
by "Thom R. Lacosta" <lacosta@bcpl.net>
- 25) [168987] Re: Yet more soldering questions
by <w9ya@arrl.net>
- 26) [168988] FS or FT Clarostat multiturn dials
by "Craig A. Ferris" <cferris@aeronix.com>
- 27) [168989] Morse code for "@" (prosign 'AC') -- radio interview
by Wayne Burdick <n6kr@elecraft.com>
- 28) [168990] Re: QRP DX totals...
by Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
- 29) [168991] BUBBA contest question
by "Steve w0oow" <w0oow@piperscreek.com>
- 30) [168992] RE: [Elmer 160] PIC El Programming Problems
by "Craig Johnson" <cbjohns@cbjohns.com>
- 31) [168993] Re: [Elecraft] Morse code for "@" (prosign 'AC') -- radio interview
by Doug Faunt N6TQS +1-510-655-8604 <faunt@panix.com>
- 32) [168994] ZM-2 on 160M
by Lloyd Lachow <llachow@yahoo.com>
- 33) [168995] Safety caution re: Yet more soldering questions
by Brad Thompson <Brad.Thompson@valley.net>
- 34) [168996] Re: Yet more soldering questions
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
- 35) [168997] KX1 Technical Talk at Atlanticon
by Wayne Burdick <n6kr@elecraft.com>
- 36) [168998] Re: [fpqrp] ZM-2 on 160M [Lofgren's]
by Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
- 37) [168999] Re: QRP DX totals...
by jsb@digistar.com
- 38) [169000] Re: ZM-2 on 160M
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 39) [169001] Atlanticon Question
by "Alexander, Paul" <Paul.Alexander@respironics.com>
- 40) [169002] Transparent Resistor?
by "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
- 41) [169003] Fox: 2nd Announcement K2QO and N0IT are your foxi Tuesday
by "sjolin" <sjolin@swbell.net>
- 42) [169004] Re: Atlanticon Question
by John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>

- 43) [169005] RE: Atlanticon Question
by "Michael Bower N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
44) [169006] Re: Transparent Resistor?
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
45) [169007] RE: Safety caution re: Yet more soldering questions
by "JBCrafts" <jbcraft@adelphia.net>

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 18:20:09 -0600
From: "sjolin" <sjolin@swbell.net>
To: "Qrp-l Reflector" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, <qrp-l@qth.net.Reflector>
Subject: [168963] Fox: Announcement - N0IT Fox This Tuesday
Message-ID: <08f301c3f9a2\$cccd19010\$78d1fea9@DaveSjolin>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings Hounds, this week K2Q0 (Mark in NY) and myself, N0IT (Dave in MO) will be your foxi.

The FOX HUNT is Tuesday night at 2000CST. It is a two hour hunt from 0200-0400 UTC 25 February. K2Q0, Mark will be near 7.038 Mhz working UP and N0IT, Dave will be near 7.042 working UP.

Remember the procedure? The following is an example:
Initial call at 0200 UTC

CQ FOX DE N0IT N0IT FOX UP2 K

Send your call once or twice (I prefer twice) around 2 Khz up....then listen. The Fox will respond to whoever he can copy...maybe KOMAX
KOMAX UR 559 MO DAVE 5W KOMAX BK

If KOMAX copies he answers
R TU UR 559 MN MAX 5W BK

If N0IT copies he acknowledges with R TU And listens to the pack for another call. OR, if necessary asks for a fill OR periodically will say R TU DE N0IT FOX UP2

For about the last 1/2 hour of the hunt or earlier if calls thin out, we will take calls near or on our freq. but initially, please use split and spread out a bit so we can make more contacts.

Please be patient and have FUN. We hope to hand out a lot of pelts. BCNU in the Hunt.

73/72 Dave, N0IT

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 19:31:47 -0600
From: "rattray" <rattray@accesscomm.ca>
To: <aa4lr@arrl.net>,
 "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168964] RE: LogBook of the World
Message-ID: <000601c3f9ac\$d0f90e20\$7900a8c0@Bonnie>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello Bill - I uploaded about 6000 Qs for my ve5rc/ve5qrp calls a few weeks ago...I'm contemplating whether or not I'll upload all my calls (a lot more) for my VE3FCH call which are in manually written log books...I like the LoTW idea - 72 Bruce ve5rc/ve5qrp

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of Bill Coleman
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2004 8:38 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: LogBook of the World

On Feb 15, 2004, at 11:07 PM, Tom Mc wrote:

>

> Just wondering if anyone else has had any experience so far.

I have 6000 Qs or so entered, and more than 1000 QSLs. All of my contacts are for contests, and all of them in the last three years.

The logs I've uploaded are the ones in an easily compatable format. I have other logs in older formats, which I haven't yet converted. Eventually, I plan to have every QSO I've ever made up in LOTW. It's going to take some time, though.

QSL response is pretty high for recent, domestic contests. For older, random Qs, it will be much lower.

The best way to improve the situation is to encourage everyone to upload logs. The more logs, the higher the QSL percentage.

Bill Coleman, AA4LR, PP-ASEL Mail: aa4lr@arrl.net
Quote: "Not within a thousand years will man ever fly!"
 -- Wilbur Wright, 1901

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 20:34:04 -0500
From: Michael Byrd <m.byrd10@verizon.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [168965] QRP DX totals...
Message-ID: <5D309EEA-65A0-11D8-A90C-00039359539C@verizon.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v612)
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed

I hope I get an email soon from the QTH list. I may be the one turning out the lights after everyone has gone.

Just finished the ARRL DX contest. My total for 40 meters is 103 countries worked and 78 confirmed with 5 watts. I started out to get Worked all Continents, but I kept going and may make DXCC after all. Most of the cards I am waiting on are recently worked DX.

I thought I could make it in a year, but it took 15 months of casual operating. Some months I made no contacts at all. I worked a lot of DX since November and the season isn't over yet. I have missed out on many QSOs and almost gave up last month.

As you all know, confirming a QSO sometimes is harder than making the contact. I am waiting on cards from very common countries with multiple contacts. Some hams just don't exchange cards. It was very frustrating to work 5U5 through a huge pileup and get my card returned with "Not in Log". I have a collection of those too. I am up to five now.

I will continue to "rework" some of the same countries until I can finish DXCC. I am

getting parts together for a big rig for 40 meters. I will run up to 20 watts on CW. That should take me to the honor roll...hi.

Lastly, this list was the main reason I became active again. It was great to hear about the DX just worked and the latest rig built. I hope to make it to the QTH list as soon as I get subscribed.

Mike - AC4UR (looking for the light switch)

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 20:22:12 -0600
From: "W.D. (Doc) Lindsey" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
To: "Rod N0RC" <rc7039-hr@yahoo.com>,
"qrp-l reflector" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: "doc k0evz earthlink" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
Subject: [168966] RE: More FS Kenwood HS-5 Comm Headphones
Message-ID: <412004212322212473@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Rod and Gang:

This is an excellent model for serious CW work. I have had mine for 7 years and still grab for them, even using a RS adaptor as needed for a particular rig or other. Highly recommended.

73,
--Doc/K0EVZ

> [Original Message]
> From: Rod N0RC <rc7039-hr@yahoo.com>
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
> Date: 2/22/2004 1:26:52 PM
> Subject: More FS Kenwood HS-5 Comm Headphones
>
> Very good condition, \$50 shipped CONUS
>
> picture at: <http://users.frii.com/rwc/fs/hs5.JPG>
>
> leather and nylon earpads included.
>
> Specs:
>

> 8 ohm impedance
> 200mW Max input at 1000 Hz
> 150 - 4000Hz -6db response
> 2m fabric cord
>
>
> You haven't lived until you've used REAL communication headphones. The
> audio quality of CW and SSB signals is remarkable.
>
> 73, Rod N0RC
>

--- W.D. (Doc) Lindsey
--- dock0evz@earthlink.net
--- EarthLink: The #1 provider of the Real Internet.

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 22:00:56 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: Brad.Thompson@VALLEY.NET
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [168967] Re: Amateur-radio quality issues (was: Re: MFJ gear)
Message-ID: <40396CE8.66C6BFAA@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Brad,

Thanks for the mention. I have probably taken more time answering Jason's questions than they deserve because I recognize some of myself 40+ years ago. Becoming a hardware engineer is not an easy task, never has been.

He will have to be especially specific in detailing his goals and objectives in his job search. He will have to learn what each job title means at different companies. And it will be especially difficult for a Master's degree holder.

Many companies don't want to "waste" such intellectual power on an entry

level position. They want more immediate return on their investment. Beginners don't know the equipment designs and it costs money waiting for them to learn.

Choice of a boss also very much influences their success. I was very lucky, most of my bosses were bright and willing to teach along with supervise. They were willing to submerge their egos and recognize the employee's contribution. They were gems.

A comment on MFJ. From the problem descriptions I have read their problems are the result of a poorly trained workforce. Young engineers (and technicians) are not born with soldering or assembly skills, they have to learn them. Fortunately they are usually born bright enough to quickly learn them.

Assuming that most of their employees are hired for 12 weeks or longer, and that most of them are looking forward to a career in electronics, a mandatory course in electronics assembly would be helpful. If the course looks too expensive, it can be required before employment and given at half pay. The benefits are almost immediately obvious. And once taught the employees won't have to take it again even if they take six months off.

I see this course broken down somewhat like this. Since all their products require soldering, a mandatory soldering course for ALL personnel. This course, lasting two or three days, would pay for itself quickly not only in higher quality products, but also in employee satisfaction.

A mandatory course in assembly techniques, concentrating on their own equipment's, lasting maybe a day or day and a half would also pay for itself quickly. Add a half day of inspection techniques would fill out the week, again, concentrating on what to look for, in their own products.

Have the course taught by senior line personnel, people who should be dinged for poor quality. Add to this a system of signed QA stickers along with one or two examples of being "called on the carpet", would quickly ramp up the company's quality image. It is really a shame that such a good example of American ingenuity has such an image. (Yes, I have met Martin Jue)

Oh, I almost forgot, slowly bring manufacturing documentation brought up to a higher level. Since most of the problems fall into such a narrow sphere, fixing the cause of the problems can supersede the documentation.

Bruce

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 22:12:54 -0500
From: "George Osier" <gosier@twcnny.rr.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [168968] DX International results....
Message-ID: <002601c3f9ba\$edf697a0\$6801a8c0@twcnny.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi All !!!!

Had a great time and a decent score I guess

199 "Q"s
597 qso points
121 mults

72,237 pts

Had :

10 M 32 countries
15 M 26 countries
20 M 36 countries
40 M 27 countries

Rig here a Ten Tec Argo 509 , 5W and antenna a 51 ft G5RV sloper , 20 ft at the high end and 3 ft at the low end 10 meters was my trusty Cushcraft AR 10 vertical at 25 ft.

I was amazed that I was able to do so well on 40 meters !!!! One of my best totals ever on 40 !!!

The second time I have used the Timewave DSP-9 and the K1EL keyer !!! Both were INCREDIBLE !!! The DSP 9 made the Argo into a modern transciever and the K1EL made it a 2 button job !!!

All in all I had a great time !!!!

72s

George Osier , N2JNZ

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 03:23:08 +0000
From: "Bill Rowlett" <kc4atu@hotmail.com>
To: aa4lr@arrl.net, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [168969] Re: LogBook of the World
Message-ID: <BAY14-F17aMIUpQuWVu0000635d@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

They are electronic credits for contacts, not QSL's. They are only good for ARRL awards, and cost separate fees from that of the award. Have not and will never use it.

Call them what they are.

Bill kc4atu

>From: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
>Reply-To: aa4lr@arrl.net
>To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
>Subject: Re: LogBook of the World
>Date: Fri, 20 Feb 2004 21:37:50 -0500
>
>
>On Feb 15, 2004, at 11:07 PM, Tom Mc wrote:
>>
>>Just wondering if anyone else has had any experience so far.
>
>I have 6000 Qs or so entered, and more than 1000 QSLs. All of my contacts
>are for contests, and all of them in the last three years.
>
>The logs I've uploaded are the ones in an easily compatable format. I have
>other logs in older formats, which I haven't yet converted. Eventually, I
>plan to have every QSO I've ever made up in LOTW. It's going to take some
>time, though.
>
>QSL response is pretty high for recent, domestic contests. For older,
>random Qs, it will be much lower.
>
>The best way to improve the situation is to encourage everyone to upload
>logs. The more logs, the higher the QSL percentage.
>
>Bill Coleman, AA4LR, PP-ASEL Mail: aa4lr@arrl.net

>Quote: "Not within a thousand years will man ever fly!"
> -- Wilbur Wright, 1901
>

Dream of owning a home? Find out how in the First-time Home Buying Guide.
<http://special.msn.com/home/firsthome.armx>

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 19:24:32 -0800
From: J <W7LS@blarg.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [168970] My qrp stuff that I'm selling
Message-ID: <40397270.60309@blarg.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks to all who responded. Too many to individually reply to right now. Sounds like I should get some photos and prices posted asap. Will do and then announce where they are. Bye for now. .73 (73, down 20 dB)
de Jim, W7LS

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 22:29:52 -0500
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: "Jason Hsu, AG4DG" <reply@jasonhsu.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168971] Re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <005601c3f9bd\$4df8ec00\$0200a8c0@charter.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

You know, it's just amazing how many people bad-mouth Radio Shack when they should be bad mouthing themselves. Do you really expect a \$15 Radio Shack iron to be in the same ballpark as the \$50+ models from Weller or others?

Of course, some people expect the Beetle 'S' to perform like a new Porsche too...

And don't forget, it never hurts to bad mouth the 'name brand' just in case someone else might be so foolish as to consider what you didn't!

> Compared to the Radio Shack (aka Radio Shaft, Radio Slack, Radio Schlock,
> Radio Yugo, etc.)

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 22:48:44 -0500
From: <bill@n4qa.com>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168972] DSWMULTI v0.5 is released upon the world..."DANGER, Will Robinson!"...
Message-ID: <002201c3f9bf\$f0a4ae60\$c726ad80@f1n5n8>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The .exe file for V0.5 of the DSWMULTI project software may be downloaded from:

<http://www.n4qa.com/dswmulti/dswmulti.html>

or

<http://www.qsl.net/n4qa/dswmulti/dswmulti.html>

You'll also need a copy of the inpout32.dll file by LOGIX4U, found elsewhere at my website.

Oh, and you must also have the Visual Basic 5.0 runtime .dll file.

No operating instructions posted as yet so be prepared for some head scratching.

Source code not quite ready for primetime...hee hee hee

73.
Bill, N4QA

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 23:21:11 -0500
From: "Kevin M., W8VOS" <adverseyaw@twmi.rr.com>
To: <cbjohns@cbjohns.com>,
 "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168973] RE: [Elmer 160] PIC E1 Programming Problems
Message-ID: <002e01c3f9c4\$77e3cd30\$64dc0a0a@magnus>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Craig,
This might be it. I removed Q4 from the board and checked it with my
DMM. It is open on all sides.
Is there a suitable sub I may have in my junkbox?
I have 2N3905 and 2N3906 in abundance.
73/72 - Kevin, W8VOS

> -----Original Message-----
> From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU]
> On Behalf Of Craig Johnson
> Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2004 4:27 PM
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> Subject: RE: [Elmer 160] PIC E1 Programming Problems
>
>
> Kevin,
> >> First, if your
> >> programming clock pulse is not being generated, it would
> >> exhibit this behavior.
>
> >This is checked with a TTL logic probe:
> > 0 Q1-C R11 is clocked during read.
>
> Good.
>
> >When I force TD low with a jumper to ground the 11.57V
> appears on the
> >TP-Vpgm. When I release it it goes to 0.723V.
>
> OK. A bit high for a "low", but should be OK. (It is OK,
> based on what you say later.)
>
> >This is checked with a TTL logic probe:
> > 0 TD does go low for the read cycle. [-10V checked with

> DVM] 0 RTS is
 > >Clocked during read. 0 DTR is Clocked during read.
 > > 0 CTS stays low during read and program. This checked at
 > via by R1.
 > > -It seems that it is always low.
 >
 > I think we have it here. CTS needs to toggle between
 > approximately +4v and -4v. If it is always low, there is a
 > problem. First, what do you read for the "low" level? Is it
 > zero or below zero?
 >
 > Looks very much like Q4 is bad. If it is "open", you would
 > always get a low for CTS. When you ground the base of Q4,
 > does CTS still stay "low"?
 >
 > Of course, maybe the Q4 collector is being held low
 > (grounded) by a short somewhere. That's why the voltage
 > reading of the "low" level is particularly important.
 >
 > > Thinking back, the real "klinker" in this whole analysis is
 > >> that I think you said it works correctly when
 > >> connected to a different computer.
 >
 > >No, that wasn't me. When I use PICALL to program the pic it works.
 > >But that is a horse of a different color. It uses a
 > different program
 > >(picallw.exe) and the LPT1 port (parallel).
 >
 > Yes, that's a completely different animal, since the signal
 > levels for a parallel port are
 > different, and, of course, it's also different hardware
 > attached. I thought you said you
 > ran the PIC-EL from another computer and it worked. Guess
 > not. Glad we clarified that.
 >
 > >73/72 - Kevin, W8VOS
 >
 > 72,
 > -Craig, AA0ZZ
 >

 Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 22:23:20 -0500
 From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
 To: "Jason Hsu, AG4DG" <reply@jasonhsu.com>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [168974] Re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20040222222320.007a1cc0@mailhost.ncia.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Congats on your new iron Jason. It will make a world of difference, as you already noted.

The proper way to solder is to heat both parts with the tip of the iron, then apply the solder. How long you heat the parts depends on thier mass, and how hot the iron is. Basic componet lead to a pcb track, about a second.

The tip of the iron should be "reasonably" clean, but well tinned. It's okay to clean the tip before making a connection, but never after. The tip will last longer if some solder is left on it while in the holder.

I never use a wet sponge to clean my iron. I just quickly (and lightly) wipe it with the tip of my fingure on the occasion it needs it. An old timer at work told me to do that and I looked at him cross eyed. Thought he was joking. But I tried it and it works well - just be quick about it. Sort of like walking on fire....

72,
Steve, KD1JV
"Melt Solder"
White Mountains of New Hampshire
<http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 23:37:52 -0500
From: "Jason Hsu, AG4DG" <jhs001@heronetwork.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168975] Re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <002801c3f9c6\$ce300440\$64923144@aoldsl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

< I never use a wet sponge to clean my iron. I just quickly (and lightly) wipe it with the tip of my fingure on the occasion it needs it. An old timer at work told me to do that and I looked at him cross eyed. Thought he was joking. But I tried it and it works well - just be quick about it. Sort of like walking on fire....>

You mean you don't wait for the soldering iron to cool? According to eham.net surveys, soldering iron burns are among the most common injuries.

I thought you're supposed to unplug everything and let it cool for a number of minutes before touching the metal parts of the soldering iron. And even then, I dip the tip into a small puddle of my spit on the table just to make sure it's cooled down. If nothing happens, then I know it's cooled off. And I still handle the metal parts gingerly. (I guess I've seen _I Know What You Did Last Summer_, _I Still Know What You Did Last Summer, and the Scream trilogy too many times.) Sure, it sounds disgusting, but the bacteria from my spit can't be any more dangerous than any residual solder left on the table.

Jason Hsu, AG4DG
personal AAAATTTT jasonhsu.com
<http://www.jasonhsu.com/ee.html>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/eeham/>
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/resume_hyperinflation_fighters/
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gmu-ece-control>

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 23:51:23 -0500
From: "Mike Yettsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168976] Re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <014401c3f9c8\$b1c41920\$0200a8c0@charter.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> I never use a wet sponge to clean my iron. I just quickly (and lightly)
> wipe it with the tip of my fingure on the occasion it needs it. An old
> timer at work told me to do that and I looked at him cross eyed. Thought
he
> was joking. But I tried it and it works well - just be quick about it.
Sort
> of like walking on fire....

I think a lot of the reason people have problems with a wet sponge is it's way too wet. As soon as there's free water on the sponge, it's very difficult to use it properly.

In a pinch, I've used paper towels. Wet till they are just damp on the top layer when folded over many times. A sponge should be damp to the touch, so that you can squeeze water out, but not so damp that pressing the tip (sideways) onto the sponge shows any tendency for free water to form.

Better be careful here! How damp to make the sponge can cause more discussion than how to teach CW!

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 22:55:13 -0600
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [168977] Re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <039301c3f9c9\$45747a70\$0402a8c0@PS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Steve, I use a copper mesh pot scrubber to clean my Weller soldering station iron tips. Works very well. Important that the scrubber contain no chemicals and be made of copper to avoid fouling the tip.

73, George W5YR
w5yr@att.net
<http://www.w5yr.com>

----- Original Message -----

From: "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2004 9:23 PM
Subject: Re: Yet more soldering questions

> Congats on your new iron Jason. It will make a world of difference, as you
> already noted.
>
> The proper way to solder is to heat both parts with the tip of the iron,
> then apply the solder. How long you heat the parts depends on thier mass,
> and how hot the iron is. Basic componet lead to a pcb track, about a
second.
>
> The tip of the iron should be "reasonably" clean, but well tinned. It's
> okay to clean the tip before making a connection, but never after. The tip
> will last longer if some solder is left on it while in the holder.
>
> I never use a wet sponge to clean my iron. I just quickly (and lightly)
> wipe it with the tip of my fingure on the occasion it needs it. An old

> timer at work told me to do that and I looked at him cross eyed. Thought
he
> was joking. But I tried it and it works well - just be quick about it.
Sort
> of like walking on fire....
>
> 72,
> Steve, KD1JV
> "Melt Solder"
> White Mountains of New Hampshire
> <http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 21:19:56 -0800
From: Mik Ishmael <mightymik2@comcast.net>
To: myetsko@insydesw.com
Cc: Low Discussion <grp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [168978] Re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <EB35FC43-65BF-11D8-A73A-000A277EDE44@comcast.net>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed
Mime-Version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v553)
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I think one aspect being missed is the other reason to use a
sponge...temperature control. For those cheapie irons that just plug
in...if it's been sitting in the holder for a while, the temperature
can get to 1100 deg F. by hitting the sponge, you can get it down (and
keep it) to a more manageable temp.

How wet? Saturate it, wring it out, you're good for the session.

On Sunday, February 22, 2004, at 08:51 PM, Mike Yetsko wrote:

>> I never use a wet sponge to clean my iron. I just quickly (and
>> lightly)
>> wipe it with the tip of my fingure on the occasion it needs it. An old
>> timer at work told me to do that and I looked at him cross eyed.
>> Thought
> he
>> was joking. But I tried it and it works well - just be quick about it.
> Sort
>> of like walking on fire....
>
> I think a lot of the reason people have problems with a wet sponge is
> it's
> way too wet. As soon as there's free water on the sponge, it's very

> difficult to use it properly.
>
> In a pinch, I've used paper towels. Wet till they are just damp on the
> top layer when folded over many times. A sponge should be damp to
> the touch, so that you can squeeze water out, but not so damp that
> pressing the tip (sideways) onto the sponge shows any tendency for
> free water to form.
>
> Better be careful here! How damp to make the sponge can cause
> more discussion than how to teach CW!
>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 10:14:52 +0000
From: Wayne K9DI <k9di@k9di.org>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [168979] Funny CW Net Tricks...or what I did this weekend.
Message-ID: <20040223101452.GA747@a.k9di.org>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

I posted the following to the CW forum on www.eham.net, but thought the group on this list might enjoy it....) WMS

Hi Gang,

Wayne K9DI es Leader Dog Patriot here (Before the question arises, Yes, I am visually impaired and work with a service animal).

The reason I am posting is to share a bit of humor with ops that might appreciate it (I Hope)....)

I am a (somewhat) regular checkin with the Illinois Training Net, a slow speed NTS training net, and am working towards traffic handling proficiency, although, my progress is in small baby sized steps as evidenced by what happened this weekend: Let me preface this story by saying that sometimes due to QRM/QRN ITN has to shift frequency, and that I usually just tune up or down 3 klicks until I hear the preamble and oft-times I don't quite catch the call of the NCS. Either because I'm late or the stone filter between my ears is back in place....) My cpy skillz are still very weak, and I work on improving them everyday.

I was running a bit behind on Friday evening (Saturday morning in UTC) when I tuned up Ol' Betsy my trusty TS520 and tune in what I thought was the ITN somewhere close to 3680. I am able to QNI es QNX no problem.

running late again Saturday night (Sunday Morning UTC) I tune up and go through the QNI/QNX routine again no problem. Then I called Woody WD9F the NCS for ITN on Saturday and Sunday evenings and the first thing he asks me is "Where were you Wayne?" "I checked in and out no problem Woody." was my reply. "Not on ITN", Woody came back. At this point my mind starts racing "WHO did I QNI with tonight???" Woody asked me where I was when I checked into that net and taking a quick look at

01' Betsy in low light I thought the dial was at 3685....

After I cleared off the landline with Woody I checked my email and there was an email from Cark W4EAT thanking me for checking into CSN the last two nights although they were a bit confused about what name I used when checking in. Mystery solved. Well, my curiosity woke up and I looked up Carl on the web and gave him a call on the landline. We had a nice chat the upshot of which is, upon closer inspection of 01' Betsy in brighter light I discovered the dial was on 3695 ten klicks from where II had thought I was.

Boy, was my face RED!!!!

This silly episode showed me at least 3 things...

1.) Pay closer attention to where the dial on the rig is.

2.) The elmering that Bob W1ZZL and the rest of the regular ops on ITN had stuck and I was able to QNI and QNX with a complete stranger of an NCS and still acquit myself honourably.

3.) I need to REALLY, REALLY buckle down and work on my copy speed so I can obliterate the stone filter between my ear...

I hope to increase my code proficiency so that I'm able to run with the BIG DAWGS on Field Day 2004!!

I dedicate this story to all of the Bobs, Woody and the ITN gang with deepest thanks and best regards for putting up with me, but most especially Bob W1ZZL.

P.S.

Does anyone else want to share some of their "BONEHEAD" moments with the rest of us?

73

de

Wayne K9DI

k9di at k9di dot org

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 05:09:45 -0800 (PST)

From: Shawn Upton <kb1ckt@yahoo.com>

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [168980] Re: Yet more soldering questions

Message-ID: <20040223130945.11952.qmail@web60402.mail.yahoo.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I typically just melt more solder onto the tip, and "flick" away impurities. For soldering through-hole pins, this works good enough. When doing work with a fine tip on SM parts, I occasionally have to clean with a sponge to get some pesky bit of junk off the tip or to get rid of excess solder that won't "flick" away.

Shawn KB1CKT

--- "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net> wrote:
> Steve, I use a copper mesh pot scrubber to clean my
> Weller soldering station
> iron tips. Works very well. Important that the
> scrubber contain no chemicals
> and be made of copper to avoid fouling the tip.
>
> 73, George W5YR
> w5yr@att.net
> <http://www.w5yr.com>
>

=====

Shawn Upton, KB1CKT

Do you Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Mail SpamGuard - Read only the mail you want.
<http://antispam.yahoo.com/tools>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 07:14:39 -0600
From: "J. Michael Thurman" <jmthurman@centurytel.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168981] RE: Amateur-radio quality issues (was: Re: MFJ gear)
Message-ID: <LFEDLPKPGGKLEMOMICIBAEMFDDAA.jmthurman@centurytel.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Interestingly, I used to work for a manufacturer that had a plant in Mississippi. There so many quality issues that the company sent a couple of engineering interns (including me) to teach print reading. We were tested before being sent, BTW. We had such a difficult time teaching basic concepts (if it says 1/4 drill - 4 places and you can only see one hole, the others are around the item at 90 degree intervals) that they instituted what is really a high school at the plant. Many employees earned GED's and did advanced coursework related to the company's business (algebra, trig, QC/QA, computers). Quality and morale rose so much that they do the same thing at all their plants. They also pay for college/trade school courses that relate to the business. The transformation was amazing. The turnover rates also went down dramatically.

What can seem like a money hole to the university-indoctrinated

accountant/manager was really a high-yield investment in the company's future. I think MFJ really has quite a concern for the amateur community. After all few of us could really afford the "name brand" gadgets that MFJ has made and priced within our reach. Sure, some things are not so well designed. If they were exactly like the name brand equivalent, wouldn't they be priced the same, too? As an example of QC, they pulled their auto-tuners for debugging. The word is that they'll be available sometime between late Spring and early Fall. Even LDG shipped some duds when they introduced their high power autotuner. (One of my friends had one.)

So, MFJ, pay for the employee courses. Many of the benefits will be quantifiable, but some will just be priceless.

73,
Michael
WN5T

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of Bruce Muscolino

Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2004 9:01 PM

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

Subject: Re: Amateur-radio quality issues (was: Re: MFJ gear)

Brad,

Thanks for the mention. I have probably taken more time answering Jason's questions than they deserve because I recognize some of myself 40+ years ago. Becoming a hardware engineer is not an easy task, never has been.

He will have to be especially specific in detailing his goals and objectives in his job search. He will have to learn what each job title means at different companies. And it will be especially difficult for a Master's degree holder.

Many companies don't want to "waste" such intellectual power on an entry level position. They want more immediate return on their investment. Beginners don't know the equipment designs and it costs money waiting for them to learn.

Choice of a boss also very much influences their success. I was very lucky, most of my bosses were bright and willing to teach along with supervise. They were willing to submerge their egos and recognize the

employee's contribution. They were gems.

A comment on MFJ. From the problem descriptions I have read their problems are the result of a poorly trained workforce. Young engineers (and technicians) are not born with soldering or assembly skills, they have to learn them. Fortunately they are usually born bright enough to quickly learn them.

Assuming that most of their employees are hired for 12 weeks or longer, and that most of them are looking forward to a career in electronics, a mandatory course in electronics assembly would be helpful. If the course looks too expensive, it can be required before employment and given at half pay. The benefits are almost immediately obvious. And once taught the employees won't have to take it again even if they take six months off.

I see this course broken down somewhat like this. Since all their products require soldering, a mandatory soldering course for ALL personnel. This course, lasting two or three days, would pay for itself quickly not only in higher quality products, but also in employee satisfaction.

A mandatory course in assembly techniques, concentrating on their own equipment's, lasting maybe a day or day and a half would also pay for itself quickly. Add a half day of inspection techniques would fill out the week, again, concentrating on what to look for, in their own products.

Have the course taught by senior line personnel, people who should be dinged for poor quality. Add to this a system of signed QA stickers along with one or two examples of being "called on the carpet", would quickly ramp up the company's quality image. It is really a shame that such a good example of American ingenuity has such an image. (Yes, I have met Martin Jue)

Oh, I almost forgot, slowly bring manufacturing documentation brought up to a higher level. Since most of the problems fall into such a narrow sphere, fixing the cause of the problems can supersede the documentation.

Bruce

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 08:52:10 -0500

From: "Paul Mackanos" <paul@prohomeinspector.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168982] Hustler 6BVT Vertical
Message-ID: <OIEOKLEMPANAOANDKNOGEELCAAA.paul@prohomeinspector.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In my deed restricted environment, it looks like a Hustler 6BVT will fit the bill. Any comments from the group, and does anyone have one they want to part with ?

72 de Paul K2DB

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 09:01:11 -0500 (EST)
From: <w9ya@arrl.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168983] Re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <2888.192.168.1.117.1077544871.squirrel@gateway>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Hey Jason and the gang;

I also have been using the same technique for many decades. I sometimes run the iron through two fingers to get both sides at once. Good technique. Works well, and if you use the rosin in the solder as a cleaning agent, the iron stays right at temperature. Lingering on a wet sponge may move the operating temperature down a bit. Whether this temp change is enough of a difference depends on what you are doing with the iron.

People that see me do this for the first time are always curious, but when they see that I am apparently unharmed AND that I get a lot of soldering done in a relatively shorter time, they tend appreciate what is going on.

Humor part below - ignore if you want;

And Jason, although it has been suggested here that I am not qualified to work on switching supplies; I used the same soldering techniques yesterday when I repaired my laptop's external power supply. The rosin and the heat cleaned up the arced and burnt areas on the switcher's pc-board. Just like it will for your iron. So definitely use Steve's suggestion of leaving the

old solder on the tip when in the holder, provided it has some rosin remaining. If not, then you might want to place some new solder on the tip before you place it in the holder.

Vy 72;

Bob
w9ya

> < I never use a wet sponge to clean my iron. I just quickly (and
> lightly) wipe it with the tip of my fingure on the occasion it needs
> it. An old timer at work told me to do that and I looked at him cross
> eyed. Thought he was joking. But I tried it and it works well - just be
> quick about it. Sort of like walking on fire....>
>
> You mean you don't wait for the soldering iron to cool? According to
> eham.net surveys, soldering iron burns are among the most common
> injuries. I thought you're supposed to unplug everything and let it cool
> for a number of minutes before touching the metal parts of the soldering
> iron. And even then, I dip the tip into a small puddle of my spit on
> the table just to make sure it's cooled down. If nothing happens, then
> I know it's cooled off. And I still handle the metal parts gingerly. (I
> guess I've seen _I Know What You Did Last Summer_, _I Still Know What
> You Did Last Summer, and the Scream trilogy too many times.) Sure, it
> sounds disgusting, but the bacteria from my spit can't be any more
> dangerous than any residual solder left on the table.
>
> Jason Hsu, AG4DG
> personal AAAATTTT jasonhsu.com
> <http://www.jasonhsu.com/ee.html>
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/eeham/>
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/resume_hyperinflation_fighters/
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gmu-ece-control>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 10:13:05 -0500
From: "Mike Yettsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <w9ya@arrl.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168984] Re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <002401c3fa1f\$8ac36fe0\$0200a8c0@charter.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> And Jason, although it has been suggested here that I am not qualified to
> work on switching supplies; I used the same soldering techniques yesterday
> when I repaired my laptop's external power supply. The rosin and the heat
> cleaned up the arced and burnt areas on the switcher's pc-board. Just like
> it will for your iron. So definitely use Steve's suggestion of leaving the
> old solder on the tip when in the holder, provided it has some rosin
> remaining. If not, then you might want to place some new solder on the tip
> before you place it in the holder.

The idea of new solder on the tip to put it back in the holder is a good idea,
but it's really to make sure the solder 'wets' the entire tip. Once it's covered,
then the presence of rosin isn't necessarily a good thing.

When I'm about to put my iron away, I clean the tip, then blob on fresh solder. Then wait till it stops smoking (the rosin has burnt away) and THEN turn it off, letting it cool with fresh solder burnt clean wetting the tip.

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 07:19:28 -0800 (PST)
From: Tom Severt <n2uhc@yahoo.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168985] Re: OT: Merging CB and Amateur radio good for ham radio and QRP
Message-ID: <20040223151928.34837.qmail@web9610.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I'm not exactly sure what you mean by merging CB and amateur radio. Are you saying give all Cbers ham licenses? If a Cber wants to take a test and get a ham license, then operate by amateur rules, I'm all

for that. It can be and is being done today. And if you want to operate on CB frequencies, all you have to do is go to Walmart or Radio Shack and buy a \$29.95 CB radio.

As far as CB is concerned, it is not now nor ever intended to be a hobby as far as the FCC is concerned.

It is a radio service for the general public. True, many CBers regard it as a hobby, but it is still regarded as a radio service as is Amateur Radio.

As far as CB not being any worse than what's heard on 75 meters, two wrongs don't exactly make a right, do they? At least on 75 meters, bad operating is the exception, not the rule as it is on CB. Just read the newsgroup rec.radio.cb to see what kind of high standards they practice. They regularly operate out of band and with illegal power, and are proud of it. I don't think we need flagrant rulebreakers in the amateur radio service. Which is why I say if they want to get ham licences and operate legally, then more power to them.

=====

Tom Severt N2UHC
Frontenac, KS
<http://www.geocities.com/n2uhc>

Do you Yahoo!?

Yahoo! Mail SpamGuard - Read only the mail you want.
<http://antispam.yahoo.com/tools>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 10:28:22 -0500 (EST)
From: "Thom R. Lacosta" <lacosta@bcpl.net>
To: Mike Yetsko <myetsko@insydesw.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168986] Re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.4.58.0402231027290.11363@mail>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Sun, 22 Feb 2004, Mike Yetsko wrote:

>
> Better be careful here! How damp to make the sponge can cause
> more discussion than how to teach CW!

Or the length of skirts, which IMO, is more interesting than damp sponges.

Thom

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 10:36:00 -0500 (EST)
From: <w9ya@arrl.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168987] Re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <3035.192.168.1.117.1077550560.squirrel@gateway>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Yeah that is much better put and what I really wanted to say. Thanxs OM !

Vy 72;

Bob
w9ya

>> And Jason, although it has been suggested here that I am not qualified
> to
>> work on switching supplies; I used the same soldering techniques
> yesterday
>> when I repaired my laptop's external power supply. The rosin and the
> heat
>> cleaned up the arced and burnt areas on the switcher's pc-board. Just
> like
>> it will for your iron. So definitely use Steve's suggestion of leaving
> the
>> old solder on the tip when in the holder, provided it has some rosin
>> remaining. If not, then you might want to place some new solder on the
> tip
>> before you place it in the holder.
>
> The idea of new solder on the tip to put it back in the holder is a good
> idea,
> but it's really to make sure the solder 'wets' the entire tip. Once
> it's covered,
> then the presence of rosin isn't necessarily a good thing.

>
> When I'm about to put my iron away, I clean the tip, then blob on fresh
> solder. Then wait till it stops smoking (the rosin has burnt away) and
> THEN turn it off, letting it cool with fresh solder burnt clean wetting
> the
> tip.

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 10:55:02 -0500
From: "Craig A. Ferris" <cferris@aeronix.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [168988] FS or FT Clarostat multiturn dials
Message-ID: <403A2256.9450A242@aeronix.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

new, 15 turn, 7/8" diameter with lock, for 1/4" shafts. Part # is
316-11. \$8 shipped or trade for ???
Please reply direct.

72,
Craig NR4E
Melbourne, FL

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 09:05:16 -0800
From: Wayne Burdick <n6kr@elecraft.com>
To: Elecraft <elecraft@mailman.qth.net>
Cc: qrp <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [168989] Morse code for "@" (prosign 'AC') -- radio interview
Message-ID: <403A32CA.87E0C61@elecraft.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In case you missed it, Rick Lindquist of the ARRL was recently interviewed
regarding the new prosign for "@":

.--.-. ('AC')

You can hear the interview at:

<http://www.npr.org/dmg/dmg.php?prgCode=ATC&showDate=17-Feb-2004&segNum=18&mediaPref=RM>

The new prosign was officially added to Morse Code some months ago, and can be substituted for the word "AT" when sending e-mail addresses.

My apologies if this is already old news ;)

73,
Wayne

N6KR .-.-. elecrafft.com

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 13:04:01 -0500
From: Lee Mairs <lairs@direcway.com>
To: m.byrd10@verizon.net,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168990] Re: QRP DX totals...
Message-ID: <001401c3fa37\$75608170\$6402a8c0@J4>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

I cannot remember the DXpedition now, but it was a rare one and I needed the card. My cards, but not the \$5.00 bill was returned with a note, "Sorry, NIL - KM4Y is in the log."

I can't remember the DXpedition, but I can sure still remember how furious I was.

73 de Lee
km4yy/8

PS: I may be around looking for the light switch also. I still haven't been accepted by the new qrp-L

----- Original Message -----

From: "Michael Byrd" <m.byrd10@verizon.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2004 8:34 PM
Subject: QRP DX totals...

> I hope I get an email soon from the QTH list. I may be the one turning
> out the lights after

> everyone has gone.
>
> Just finished the ARRL DX contest. My total for 40 meters is 103
> countries worked and
> 78 confirmed with 5 watts. I started out to get Worked all Continents,
> but I kept going
> and may make DXCC after all. Most of the cards I am waiting on are
> recently worked DX.
>
> I thought I could make it in a year, but it took 15 months of casual
> operating. Some months
> I made no contacts at all. I worked a lot of DX since November and the
> season isn't over
> yet. I have missed out on many QSOs and almost gave up last month.
>
> As you all know, confirming a QSO sometimes is harder than making the
> contact. I am
> waiting on cards from very common countries with multiple contacts.
> Some hams just
> don't exchange cards. It was very frustrating to work 5U5 through a
> huge pileup and get
> my card returned with "Not in Log". I have a collection of those too. I
> am up to five now.
>
> I will continue to "rework" some of the same countries until I can
> finish DXCC. I am
> getting parts together for a big rig for 40 meters. I will run up to 20
> watts on CW. That
> should take me to the honor roll...hi.
>
> Lastly, this list was the main reason I became active again. It was
> great to hear about
> the DX just worked and the latest rig built. I hope to make it to the
> QTH list as soon as
> I get subscribed.
>
> Mike - AC4UR (looking for the light switch)
>
>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 12:22:58 -0600
From: "Steve w0oow" <w0oow@piperscreek.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>, <qrp-1@mailman.qth.net>
Subject: [168991] BUBBA contest question
Message-ID: <002601c3fa3a\$11d00b00\$6401a8c0@net.alltel.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Does anyone know anything about the BUBBA contest? When it is, who sponsors it, rules, url's, . etc.
Thanks,
Steve

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 12:30:30 -0600
From: "Craig Johnson" <cbjohns@cbjohns.com>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [168992] RE: [Elmer 160] PIC E1 Programming Problems
Message-ID: <007701c3fa3b\$1e7e6440\$6201a8c0@cbjp2>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Kevin,
>This might be it. I removed Q4 from the board and checked it with my
>DMM. It is open on all sides.
>Is there a suitable sub I may have in my junkbox?
>I have 2N3905 and 2N3906 in abundance.
>73/72 - Kevin, W8VOS

Either of those should be fine. Just an ordinary PNP.

72,
-Craig, AA0ZZ

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 13:32:14 -0500 (EST)
From: Doug Faunt N6TQS +1-510-655-8604 <faunt@panix.com>
To: n6kr@elecraft.com
Cc: elecraft@mailman.qth.net, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [168993] Re: [Elecraft] Morse code for "@" (prosign 'AC') -- radio interview
Message-ID: <200402231832.i1NIWEK25858@panix1.panix.com>

Hi Wayne,

I think it's old news, too, but also look at "Love on the Wire" at

<http://www.nextbigthing.org/archive/tnbt.html>

It's about a romance book set on the "Victorian Internet" in 186something, and the seques into a bit about the code and the ham who did it for the previous segement.

73, doug

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 10:40:17 -0800 (PST)
From: Lloyd Lachow <llachow@yahoo.com>
To: qrp-1@mailman.qth.net, qrp-1@lehigh.edu, fpqrp-1@mpna.com
Subject: [168994] ZM-2 on 160M
Message-ID: <20040223184017.96707.qmail@web41003.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Can anyone direct me to a source for info on how to modify a ZM-2 tuner for use on 160M, if such exists?
Thanks!

LL/K3ESE

Do you Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Mail SpamGuard - Read only the mail you want.
<http://antispam.yahoo.com/tools>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 13:53:11 -0500
From: Brad Thompson <Brad.Thompson@valley.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [168995] Safety caution re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.2.20040223134944.01e881f0@pop3.norton.antivirus>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Hello--

Regarding the process of using one's fingers to wipe dross away from the tip of a hot soldering iron-- contemplate the Three Rules of Professional Plumbing:

1. Water runs downhill
2. Payday is Friday
3. Never put your fingers in your mouth.

If you burn your fingers while soldering, your instinctive reaction will contravene Rule 3. It's dangerous to do so because you may ingest lead along with crispy burned skin<g>.

73--

Brad AA1IP

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 14:08:23 -0500
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: "Jason Hsu, AG4DG" <reply@jasonhsu.com>, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [168996] Re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20040223140823.007aeca0@mailhost.ncia.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>You mean you don't wait for the soldering iron to cool?

Not if your cleaning the tip. For anything else, yes, let it cool before you grap tightly onto it!

>According to
>eham.net surveys, soldering iron burns are among the most common >injuries.

When I was a lad, maybe 12-13 years old, I had a hot iron on my desk. When I got up out of my chair, my knee hooked the cord of the iron and pulled it off the desk. Having quick reflexes back then, I caught it - and put a nasy burn across the palm of my hand! Needless to say, from then on if I knocked the iron off the desk, I let it fall to the floor before picking it up!

72,
Steve, KD1JV
"Melt Solder"
White Mountains of New Hampshire
<http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 11:07:44 -0800
From: Wayne Burdick <n6kr@elecraft.com>
To: Elecraft <elecraft@mailman.qth.net>, qrp <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [168997] KX1 Technical Talk at Atlanticon
Message-ID: <403A4F78.A4354B73@elecraft.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'll be doing an in-depth KX1 technical presentation at Atlanticon (March 26-27). Among the topics will be hardware/firmware integration, techniques to minimize component count, and high-density packaging design (including a discussion of how the KXAT1, KXB30, and KXP01 fit in). Look over the schematic and bring me your toughest questions ;)

The exact time of my talk isn't set, but I'll post it when I find out. Other information on Atlanticon can be found on the NJQRP site:

<http://www.njqrp.org/atlanticon/>

I hope to meet many of you there.

73,
Wayne
N6KR

--

<http://www.elecrafter.com>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 13:24:35 -0600
From: Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
To: Lloyd Lachow <llachow@yahoo.com>, qrp-1@mailman.qth.net,
qrp-1@lehigh.edu, fpqrp-1@mpna.com
Subject: [168998] Re: [fpqrp] ZM-2 on 160M [Lofgren's]
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20040223132435.0083bb50@mail.9plus.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Lloyd,

I gave up on the ZM-2 not matching things I needed to and rewound / reconnected the toroid using Charlie Lofgren's (W6JJZ) design info. He has also included information on how to use his designs on 160. You will most likely have to give up the high frequencies though.

http://www.njqrp.org/mbrproj/zmatch_original.html

Also, some of his other notes where he discusses putting one on 160.

<http://www.seboldt.net/k0jd/z-match.html>

Charlie has an article in Antenna Compendium #5 on the z-match too including a single-band design.

At 10:40 AM 02/23/2004 -0800, Lloyd Lachow wrote:

> Can anyone direct me to a source for info on how to

>modify a ZM-2 tuner for use on 160M, if such exists?

>Thanks!

>

> LL/K3ESE

>

>-----

>Do you Yahoo!?

>Yahoo! Mail SpamGuard - Read only the mail you want.

><http://antispam.yahoo.com/tools>

>-To unsubscribe, mail to majordomo@fpqrp.com, msg: unsubscribe fpqrp-l -

>

Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1
QRP-ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, QRPp-I #115, ARS #1280, SOC #57
Zombie #759, COG #11, 6 Club #201, FP #601 oo <http://www.netxqrp.org>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 14:54:39 -0500 (EST)

From: jsb@digistar.com

To: Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>

Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [168999] Re: QRP DX totals...

Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.4.58.0402231453490.5279@digistar.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Mon, 23 Feb 2004, Lee Mairs wrote:

> PS: I may be around looking for the light switch also. I still haven't

> been accepted by the new qrp-L

If you want to talk about CW come over to QRP-CW list at

<http://qrq.us/mailman/listinfo/qrp-cw>

72 Jason N1SU

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 14:13:34 -0600

From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>

To: <llachow@yahoo.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [169000] Re: ZM-2 on 160M
Message-ID: <017201c3fa49\$a7a1c7e0\$0402a8c0@PS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

LL, contact Charles Lofgren who "invented" the Z-match. Don't remember his call but QRZ does.

See you in the Pack!

73, George W5YR
w5yr@att.net
<http://www.w5yr.com>

----- Original Message -----

From: "Lloyd Lachow" <llachow@yahoo.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2004 12:40 PM
Subject: ZM-2 on 160M

> Can anyone direct me to a source for info on how to
> modify a ZM-2 tuner for use on 160M, if such exists?
> Thanks!
>
> LL/K3ESE
>
> _____
> Do you Yahoo!?
> Yahoo! Mail SpamGuard - Read only the mail you want.
> <http://antispam.yahoo.com/tools>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 08:07:54 -0500
From: "Alexander, Paul" <Paul.Alexander@respironics.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [169001] Atlanticon Question
Message-ID:
<4F896CE1DE4DE24E842198BCECAA6D2102B999@useumrms2.useu.respironics.com>
content-class: urn:content-classes:message
MIME-Version: 1.0

```
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
```

I would like to attend the Atlanticon meeting but am not sure if I will be able to do so because of scheduling conflicts. Can I still attend if I am not pre-registered? Are there any provisions for walk-ins?

Thank-you.

Paul Alexander
WB9IPA

[illegible]

This message, together with any attachments, may be legally privileged and is confidential information intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. It is exempt from disclosure under applicable law including court orders. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use, dissemination, distribution or copy of this message, or any attachment, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the original sender and delete this message, along with any attachments, from your computer.

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 21:36:13 +0000
From: "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [169002] Transparent Resistor?
Message-ID: <Law9-F26aVH38LkW6lA00014209@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

OK, I have here a disassembled N type coaxial terminator:

<http://www.geocities.com/alibhernlem/Radio/Nterminator.html>

On examining this, I discovered that the resistive element is a clear blue (looks like sapphire rod) cylinder. You can see it in the picture. And yes, it DOES have conductivity through its surface (not just an insulator around some fine wire running down the middle or something like that).

What is that stuff? Is it glass (or sapphire) with a thin surface film of the resistive material? A thin film COULD account for the color or it could actually BE sapphire (for heat dissipative excellence). A thin film like that around a cylinder makes sense for good RF properties to very high frequencies.

Any of you know what is the straight dope on this?

Brad

P.S. the resistance is about 53 ohms.

Say good-bye to spam, viruses and pop-ups with MSN Premium -- free trial offer! <http://click.atdmt.com/AVE/go/onm00200359ave/direct/01/>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 15:39:06 -0600
From: "sjolin" <sjolin@swbell.net>
To: "Qrp-l Reflector" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>,
"qrp-l@qth.net" <qrp-l@mailman.qth.net>
Subject: [169003] Fox: 2nd Announcement K2Q0 and N0IT are your foxi Tuesday
Message-ID: <0c3901c3fa55\$775af640\$78d1fea9@DaveSjolin>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings Hounds, this week K2Q0 (Mark in NY) and myself, N0IT (Dave in MO) will be your foxi.

The FOX HUNT is Tuesday night at 2000CST. It is a two hour hunt from 0200-0400 UTC 25 February. K2Q0, Mark will be near 7.038 Mhz working UP and N0IT, Dave will be near 7.042 working UP.

Send your call once or twice (I prefer twice, not sure about Mark) around 2 Khz up....then listen. For about the last 1/2 hour of the hunt or earlier if calls thin out, we will take calls near or on our freq. but initially, please use split and spread out a bit so we can make more contacts.

Please be patient and have FUN. We hope to hand out a lot of pelts. BCNU in the Hunt.

73/72 Mark, K2Q0
 Dave, N0IT

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 16:58:23 -0500
From: John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [169004] Re: Atlanticon Question
Message-ID: <403A777F.6080205@pobox.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>
>
>CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE
>-----
>This message, together with any attachments, may be legally privileged
>and is confidential information intended only for the use of the
>individual or entity to which it is addressed. It is exempt from
>disclosure under applicable law including court orders. If you are not
>the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use,
>dissemination, distribution or copy of this message, or any attachment,
>is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error,
>please notify the original sender and delete this message, along with
>any attachments, from your computer.
>

Let me guess...this guy's a lawyer.

John W2AGN

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 17:53:00 -0500
From: "Michael Bower N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [169005] RE: Atlanticon Question
Message-ID: <ODE0IKLMAJFGCNMOGAGICEIHENAA.bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Having run the check-in table for Atlanticon the past 3 years, I'll answer yet, you can walk-in. (Unless they change it on my this year (hi-hi)).

Michael N4NMR

> -----Original Message-----

> From: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of

> Alexander, Paul

> Sent: Monday, February 23, 2004 8:08 AM

> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

> Subject: Atlanticon Question

>

>

> I would like to attend the Atlanticon meeting but am not sure if I will
> be able to do so because of scheduling conflicts. Can I still attend if
> I am not pre-registered? Are there any provisions for walk-ins?

>

> Thank-you.

>

> Paul Alexander

> WB9IPA

>

> =====

> CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

> -----

> This message, together with any attachments, may be legally privileged
> and is confidential information intended only for the use of the
> individual or entity to which it is addressed. It is exempt from
> disclosure under applicable law including court orders. If you are not
> the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use,
> dissemination, distribution or copy of this message, or any attachment,
> is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error,
> please notify the original sender and delete this message, along with
> any attachments, from your computer.

>

>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 17:55:53 -0500

From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>

To: <alihernlem@hotmail.com>,

"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [169006] Re: Transparent Resistor?

Message-ID: <009801c3fa60\$33fc8f20\$0200a8c0@charter.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> OK, I have here a disassembled N type coaxial terminator:
>
> <http://www.geocities.com/alibhernlem/Radio/Nterminator.html>
>
> On examining this, I discovered that the resistive element is a clear
blue
> (looks like sapphire rod) cylinder. You can see it in the picture. And
yes,
> it DOES have conductivity through its surface (not just an insulator
around
> some fine wire running down the middle or something like that).
>
> What is that stuff? Is it glass (or sapphire) with a thin surface film
of
> the resistive material? A thin film COULD account for the color or it
could
> actually BE sapphire (for heat dissipative excellence). A thin film like
> that around a cylinder makes sense for good RF properties to very high
> frequencies.
>
> Any of you know what is the straight dope on this?
>
> Brad
>
> P.S. the resistance is about 53 ohms.

A liquid???

But, when I look at your photo, I do see what looks like a 'lighter'
colored wire through the blue. Is that just an optical effect?

I wonder... How much power does that terminator dissipate?
Could that be a 'fuse' with 53ohms impedance?

Mike

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 18:41:51 -0500
From: "JBCrafts" <jbcraft@adelphia.net>

To: <Brad.Thompson@valley.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [169007] RE: Safety caution re: Yet more soldering questions
Message-ID: <AGEJJBFLPLHMOECFDINOEE0IFAAA.jbcraft@adelphia.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I spent many years as a consumers electronics bench tech, and it is second nature for me to swipe across the tip of my solder pencil with the pad on my thumb. I used to have real thick skin on my thumb, but since I don't work on the bench anymore, the thick skin is worn off, but I still have a favorite spot on my jeans that gets hit with the tip of the pencil.

WARNING, do not try that with double knit pants.... yes, I forgot one day...

as a side note... I used to be an instructor at Southern Ohio College, I used to drive another instructor insane... he never worked on the bench a day in his life, but he HATED it when I cleaned a solder tip the way I was used to, he used to tell his students they would get a ZERO for the day if they ever touched the hot end of the solder pencil.

00
Bob K8YS

End of QRP-L Digest 3206

